

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-4. (canceled).

5. (currently amended) A CATV conditional access system comprising a digital head end for transmitting ~~picture~~picture signals of digital programs to terminals provided in a plurality of areas, and

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a plurality of analog head ends in the respective areas, each analog head end transmitting both the picture signals of digital programs transmitted from the digital end head and picture signals of analog programs to terminals belonging to each area, wherein:

said digital head end transmits an area code allocated to each area to the terminals provided in each area, which is used to recognize an area to which each of the terminals belongs,

said digital head end transmits program data to the terminals provided in each area, which shows digital programs of not-yet-provided services in the respective areas and information regarding the digital programs,

wherein each of the terminals identifies said area code ~~with~~and said program data and excludes a picture signal of a digital program of a not-yet-provided service from the picture

signals of the digital programs transmitted from said digital head end in such an area to which the terminal belongs, and

wherein said area code is transmitted to the terminals separately from said program data.

6. (currently amended) The CATV conditional access system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said terminal identifies said area code ~~with~~and said program data so as not to display a picture of a relevant digital program by not demultiplexing a multiplexed picture signal of said relevant digital program among a plurality of multiplexed digital picture signals.

7. (currently amended) The CATV conditional access system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said terminal identifies said area code ~~with~~and said program data so as to exclude electronic program guide information related to the digital program of the not-yet-provided service from electric program guide information transmitted from said digital head end.

8. (currently amended) A CATV conditional access method comprising:

providing a digital head end for transmitting picture signals of digital programs to terminals provided in a plurality of areas,

providing a plurality of analog head ends in the respective areas, each analog head end transmitting both the picture signals of digital programs transmitted from the digital head end and picture signals of analog programs to terminals belonging to each area,

transmitting through said analog head ends an area code allocated to each area to the terminals provided in each area, which is used to recognize an area to which each of the terminals belongs,

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transmitting program data to the terminals provided in each area, which shows digital programs of not-yet-provided services in the respective areas and information regarding the digital programs, and

identifying said area code ~~with~~and said program data so as to exclude a picture signal of a digital program of a not-yet-provided service from the picture signals of the digital programs transmitted from said digital head end in such an area to which the terminal belongs,

wherein said area code is transmitted to the terminals separately from said program data.

9. (new) The CATV conditional access system as claimed in claim 5, wherein network information data and program guide information data are sent simultaneously with the program data, to the terminals provided in each area.
